

Cass County Fair Association  
Regular Meeting  
Gregarek Building  
July 8, 2025  
Minutes

“This Meeting is a meeting of the Cass County Fair Board in Public for the purpose of conducting Fair Board business and is not considered a public meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated in the agenda.”

President Dave Bratton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Present:** President Dave Bratton, Vice President Daryl Keesler, Secretary Sara Johnson, Treasurer Diane Skibbe, Fair Manager Brenda Smego, Rental Mike Smego, Directors Jim Teter, Rodney Waldschmidt, Rob Eubank, Neil Bowman, Stephanie Bender-Breseman, Zelda Cloud, Shane Harris, David Gleason, Rob Carpenter (via phone), Gail Peterson, Ben Waldschmidt, Mike Frushour, Recorder Stephanie Knepple, Guests Meredith Glass, Tiffany Graves, Mike Luna, Bridget Teter, Melissa Town, Jeremiah Hartsell, Mackenzie Hartsell, Tim Miller, Charles McCarthy Karen Wright, Heather Burchfield, Kris Sweitzer, Treasa Ridenour, Sara Heuer, Deb Ridenouer, Jon Blough, and Laura Blough.

**Minutes:** Zelda Cloud moved to approve June 2025 Board Meeting Minutes, supported by Rodney Waldschmidt . Motion carried.

**Financial Report:** Zelda Cloud moved to approve the Financial Report, supported by Stephanie Bender-Breseman. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:**

- Meredith Glass requested permission for a late arrival on Sunday. This request was approved, with the stipulation that the horse be walked in and the trailer not brought near the barns.
- Tiffany Graves:
  - Police coverage has been secured.
  - The emergency management plan is complete, and a hard copy will be provided to Brenda Smego.
- Karen Wright:
  - Gratitude was expressed to Dan Gleason and Justin McDonald for their contributions, in the form of labor and concrete, towards the goat wash rack.
  - A request was made for two copies of the milk house key.

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- Discussion occurred regarding the electrical agreement, specifically whether the board would cover the full or partial cost.

- Zelda Cloud moved to pay half and goats pay half of \$1,200.00 for the completion of electrical work in the goat barn, a motion seconded by Stephanie Bender-Breseman.

Dave Bratton	Yes	Rob Carpenter	(phone)
Sara Johnson	Yes	Zelda Cloud	Yes
Daryl Keesler	No	Rob Eubank	Yes
Mike Frushour	Yes	David Gleason	Yes
Diane Skibbe	Yes	Shane Harris	Yes
Jim Teter	Yes	Gail Peterson	Yes
Stephanie Bender-Breseman	Yes	Ben Waldshmidt	Yes
Neil Bowman	Yes	Rodney Waldschmidt	Yes

Motion carried.

- Jon Blough:
  - All rabbit entries have been validated. Minor technical issues were resolved.
  - Replacement of deceased rabbits is not permitted.

**Committee Reports:**

- Gates: Jim Teter announced that additional volunteers are required to assist at the gates.
  - July 23rd Gates training
- Camp Lottery: Brenda Smego reported the process was smooth and fast. Sold 42 camp lots and 2 lots are left. Available on a first come first serve basis.

**Old Business:**

- Meeting Dates: Weekly fair board meetings leading up to the fair. Tuesday July 15th and 22nd at 7:00pm
- Disinfecting of Grounds: Sunday, July 13th David Gleason, Jim Teter, and Mike Smego will disinfect.
- Worknights: Tim Miller has organized a group that will volunteer as needed. Worknights are currently scheduled for Thursdays. Additional evenings are needed.

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- Mega Raffle: Brenda Smego reported that ticket sales totaled \$26,100, with 39 tickets remaining outstanding. Fair board members were reminded to return any unsold tickets.

**New Business:**

- Beer Garden Schedule: Brenda Smego has the schedule and a few shifts are still open.
- Fair Entry: Ginny reported that the process has been different. She hopes everyone adjusted well with the new sign-up process.
- Bathroom Update: Mike Smego reported that the ventilation system has been completed and the showers are now fully operational. The final invoice reflects a \$10,000.00 increase over the initial quote.

**Board Member Round-Table:**

- Stephanie Bender-Breseman: The fair's address was incorrect; however, an email was sent to Google, and the address has since been rectified.
- Mike Smego: Speakers will be installed this weekend.
- Brenda Smego: Read a report from Hilary Hunt, MSU Extension Office Agent. She stated that both 4-H Summer Camp and 4-H Exploration Days were highly successful. Thank you kits are available at no cost from the extension office. The Lowe Building setup is scheduled for Thursday.
- Insurance Coverage: Brenda Smego and Dave Bratton have addressed the issue, and the agent's termination has been finalized. A new agent, highly experienced in fair coverage, has been retained from Kansas City. Brenda will disseminate the coverage details to the board members.
- Daryl Keesler:
  - Trees have been moved by the Draft Horse Barn.
  - Tarps on stage are not in good condition.
  - Don Leland and Heston Wallace have been approved for fair entry passes in exchange for their time volunteered at the fair.
- Gail Peterson:
  - Asked Shane Harris to reach out to Farmers Exchange to place an advertisement.
  - Asked Mike Frushour about the feasibility of using the generator on Wednesday morning. Mike Frushour will investigate the matter.

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- Ben Waldschmidt: Fair board members prepped and completed the black top by the Beef barn. 220 feet was poured. Labor and supplies were donated by Bob Thompson.
- Mike Smego: Andrew Hershberger will donate equipment to use during fair week. He just needs to know of any other equipment that is needed. Andrew Hershberger has offered to donate equipment for use during fair week. He requires an inventory of additional equipment needed.
- Rob Eubank: Will donate hay for rodeo.

**Adjournment:**

7:56 p.m.

Mike Frushour, moved.

Shane Harris, supported.

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephanie Knepple